

Appl. No. _10/212541_

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Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the first paragraph, page 4 of the specification with the following amended paragraph.

In accordance with another embodiment of the present invention, Figure 5 illustrates an end view orthographic projection of a portion of a polygonal fuel cell stack 200 comprising: a plurality of polygonal fuel cells 100, a cathode bus 170, an anode bus 180, and a plurality of interconnection strips 160. As described above, polygonal fuel cells 100 comprise contact layers 110 and anode layers 140 and have a polygonal cross section to facilitate dense packing. Each polygonal fuel cell 100 produces a characteristic voltage rise and is capable of sourcing current only up to a safe individual cell current limit. In order to meet overall requirements of polygonal fuel cell stack 200, therefore, polygonal fuel cells 100 are electrically coupled in parallel to satisfy a current requirement and in series to satisfy a voltage requirement. Stack voltage is made available externally by electrically coupling ~~contact~~ cathode layers 110 to cathode bus 170 and by electrically coupling anode layers 140 to anode bus 180. Cell-to-cell and cell-to-bus electrical coupling is achieved by interposing interconnection strips 160 there between. Interconnection strips 160 also provide spacing among polygonal fuel cells 100 to permit gas flow over anode layers 140.